



INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SERVICES

Environmental and Social Performance Consultant - Ghana

A. Introduction

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a U.S. Government corporation whose mission is to provide assistance that will support economic growth and poverty reduction in carefully selected countries that demonstrate a commitment to just and democratic governance, economic freedom, and investments in their citizenry. For more information on the MCC, please visit www.mcc.gov.

The United States of America acting through the Millennium Challenge Corporation (“MCC”) has formed partnerships with some of the world’s poorest countries through large, five-year Grant Programs referred to as Compacts. MCC administers these Compacts through the Millennium Challenge Accounts (MCAs) which are entities that are set up locally to manage and oversee all aspects of the Compact implementation.

MCC has approved over \$7 Billion in Poverty Reduction Compacts worldwide that support country-determined projects in such sectors as:

- agriculture and irrigation,
- transportation (roads, bridges, ports),
- water supply and sanitation,
- access to health,
- finance and enterprise development,
- anticorruption initiatives,
- land rights and access,
- access to education

A large part of MCC’s portfolio is focused on the energy sector, which is expected to grow in the new Compacts that are being developed in several African countries—Ghana, Tanzania, Morocco, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Niger.

The Procurement Practice Group, a unit within the Sector Operations Division of MCC’s Department of Compact Operations, is committed to supporting MCC’s mission by following the highest standards of professional public procurement of goods, services and works necessary for the effective development and implementation of our Compacts. Procurement efforts under the Compacts are conducted by the host country MCA entity using the MCC Program Procurement Guidelines (PPG) and standard bidding documents. The PPG are based on the World Bank procurement guidelines and standard bidding documents; MCC Compact-funded procurements

are not conducted using the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR). Procurements funded under the Compacts are managed by one or more Procurement Agents (PA) serving the MCA entity. The PA, which may be a government or an independent entity, works closely with the MCA entity to ensure that procurements are conducted in compliance with the MCC PPG. The staff of the Procurement Practice Group provides oversight of procurements executed by the MCAs to ensure that the procurement process meets the standards of fairness, quality and transparency. For more information on the MCC PPG, please visit www.mcc.gov/pages/business/guidelines.

MCC's success in fulfilling its mission of poverty reduction through economic growth requires effective assessment and management of risks through a comprehensive approach to prevent delays during Compact implementation. Some of these risks are found in the procurement process. A key principle for a successful Compact is MCC's commitment to taking all reasonable steps to promote the best procurement approaches and best practices in its staff and that of its country counterparts, including providing training and keeping up to date with sector trends, the market and to be acquainted with how other agencies/donors manage their procurements, and promoting our country counterparts to do the same.

MCC and MCA staff is required to work in partnership to ensure that the procurement processes are not only done according to PPG but also ensure that they are done using the most efficient process that mitigates risks of procurement delays, failed procurements and deficient contract implementation. Given that a good amount of MCC's financial investments are driven by procurement mechanisms it is critically important that this partnership works in a manner that demonstrates understanding of the current procurement trends being used in the market.

Because of these reasons, it is necessary to hire a consultant that has specific procurement experience in this area to support MCC's Procurement Practice Group.

B. Scope

MCC seeks the services of experienced Impact Analysts, Social Scientists, Environmental Economists, Project Developers, Project Managers, and who are expert in one or more aspects of Environmental and Social Performance (ESP) within investment project cycles and in a developing country context.

C. Country

Ghana

D. Tasks

The consultant will report to the MCC assigned Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) and provide the following advisory services on an as needed basis:

- Conduct environmental and social screening of Compact works for environmental, social, health, and safety risks;

- Assisting MCC in determining requirements and scope for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs); other environmental analyses; Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs), gender analysis and/or Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) in accordance with MCC Environmental Guidelines, IFC performance Standards and international best practices;
- In collaboration with MCC and the MCA-Ghana (MiDA) ESP team, assess the adequacy of strategic and activity planning, human resources, budgeting and current workload and resource requirements related to implementation and resettlement planning and management activities;
- Coordinate with the consultants engaged for preparation, implementation, and monitoring of RAPs to ensure consistency in approaches and quality of documentation, and make recommendations to MCC ESP on follow-up actions as required;
- Participate in meetings, field visits, and general mission activities; prepare concise mission documentation reporting recommendation, key issues and findings;
- Identify opportunities to enhance project designs so they are more environmentally and socially sustainable including developing investment strategies and proposed activities;
- Assess the consistency and effectiveness of local environmental laws and regulations as compared to MCC Environmental Guidance and international best practices;
- Analyze the completeness and quality of existing ESP-related analysis against MCC Environmental Guidelines, IFC performance standards and international best practices, and identify potential alternatives and viable mitigation measures;
- Assess implementation strategies to include project timeliness and phasing, capacity, policies, and effectiveness;
- Assist in the review of draft tender documents, contracts, and modifications for consistency with MCC Environmental Guidelines, IFC Performance Standards, and international best practices;
- Follow up, as needed, on issues raised during the previous mission and identify next steps, reviews and prepare Action Matrix as required;
- assessing the extent and quality of consultation with environmental and social stakeholders;
- Undertake any other tasks that may be assigned by the MCC-ESP Director.

The consultant would be precluded from bidding on work and services (design, assessment, construction and supervision) to be procured by the local MCA accountable entity or using funds advanced under a Compact in the relevant country. The designated Consultant would be expected to coordinate with local authorities responsible for MCC Compact implementation as well as other donors and consultants, where relevant. However, designated Consultant would report directly to the designated COR/PM (i.e. relevant ESP Director).

E. Deliverables

To support MCC in the flexible and timely manner needed to meet the evolving needs of Compact development and negotiation, technical directives under this statement of work will be issued and the Consultant deployed each time the Consultant's services are needed over the course of this contract. No additional tasks shall imply any additional costs to the Government

beyond the amount allowed for in the initial call order; however, this call order may be amended to reflect additional costs associated with implementation planning and oversight requirements in additional countries.

Deliverable 1: Trip reports to the MCC COR/PM and RCM to succinctly summarize findings and recommendations.

Deliverable 2: Ad hoc reports, the Consultant shall respond (in writing) to requests from MCC COR/PM on a variety of activities and deliverables related to environmental and social assessment/performance, donor coordination, and other such matters that may be needed for any specific task and that will be communicated by the MCC COR/PM and/or RCM.

- **Trip Reports or Activity Reports** to provide analysis on all trips and tasks as assigned by the COR.
- **Final Report:** This report will include the final observations and recommendations of the Consultant highlighting any additional analysis that may be required at the end of the contract, if so requested by the COR.

The deliverable schedule is as follows:

| REPORT | EXPECTED DATE |
|----------------|--|
| Trip Reports | As necessary |
| Ad hoc Reports | As necessary |
| Final Report | Within one month before the end of the consultancy |

F. Period and Place of Performance

This consultancy shall be filled for a base period of twelve months. The estimated number of hours are 720.

The consultant will work from its home office and/or MCC headquarters or any MCC eligible country.

Travel to various countries as required, not more than four round trips per year, for not more than two weeks at a time, unless agreed otherwise by the COR.

G. Subcontracting

The consultant is not authorized to subcontract data collection, environmental and social analysis, translation, and other related services.

H. Evaluation Criteria

- An advanced degree in environmental, social or natural sciences, environmental engineering, planning or a related field;
- A minimum of 15 years of experience working in environmental and/or social field;
- A minimum of 5 years working with the IFC Performance Standards;
- Ability to conduct technical analysis of environmental and social issues and provide effective communication to enhance the design and implementation of road and Energy projects;
- Oral and written communication skills to effectively communicate complex technical subjects to a wide range of non-technical stakeholders;
- Professional oral and written command of English and French essential (Please include any other languages and level of proficiency in your resume);

Desirable

- Experience working in infrastructure, and preferably Energy projects in Ghana and West Africa;
- Skill in providing technical advice and guidance on the assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with development projects/programs in developing countries with experience in Ghana and West Africa;
- Experience in two or more of the following sub-sectors is also highly desired:
 - Infrastructure
 - Agriculture
 - Energy
 - Involuntary Resettlement
 - Natural Resource Management
 - Social Science
 - Agriculture
 - Occupational health and safety

I. Conflict of Interest

The consultant would be precluded from bidding on work and services (design, assessment, construction and supervision) to be procured by the local MCA accountable entity or using funds advanced under a Compact in the relevant country, unless the consultant submits a mitigation plan sufficient to ameliorate any conflict of interest pursuant to the rules applicable to the procurement process.

J. Timing and Reporting

All formal communication with MCC, including reports, will be submitted to the COR. The COR for this requirement will be identified via separate correspondence.

The COR will have technical responsibility for monitoring the Independent Consultant's performance. The COR will review and evaluate the contract's performance, and also will coordinate any communications with relevant counterparts and other donor agencies and organizations.

Any change in the terms of the Contract must be made in writing and approved by the Contracting Officer. No representation of the COR shall serve as a basis for an alteration in the general scope of this Contract or of the terms and conditions of the Contract unless confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer. The Independent Consultant must communicate with the Contracting Officer on all matters that pertain to the Contract terms. Proceeding with the work without proper contractual coverage could result in nonpayment for that work.

K. Other requirements:

International travel is required. The Consultant may be requested to mobilize on a short notice and will be expected to deliver high quality finished products in a timely manner based on the instructions of the COR/PM. The Consultant is expected to have the necessary computer hardware and software to provide prompt and cost effective consultant services typical to the profession.